REMARKS

The Office Action of November 3, 2006 has been received and carefully reviewed. In response, independent claim 11 has been amended above to recite certain features of the frame slots as previously considered in connection with claims 19 and 20, and new claims 21-30 have been added, wherein entry of the above amendments is requested under 37 CFR §1.116 as presenting the claims in condition for allowance or in better form for consideration on appeal and complying with formal requirements set forth in previous Office Actions, without requiring further searching and without adding new matter. Applicants submit that the pending independent claims 11 and 21, and 28 are now in condition for allowance together with dependent claims 12-20, 22-27, 29, and 30, whereby reconsideration of the subject application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 11-20

Claims 1- 5, 7, 9, 11-15, 17, and 19 were rejected as being unpatentable over Gilhousen 6,157,668. Claims 1-5, 7, and 9 were cancelled above without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of remaining claims 11-15, 19, and 19 is respectfully requested under 35 U.S.C. §103 for at least the following reasons.

As discussed in Applicants previous responses, Gilhousen neither teaches nor fairly suggests the coded information recited in independent claim 11 which indicates a mobile's intent to switch from the serving system equipment to a particular target system equipment identified by the coded information. The message in the Gilhousen reference does not indicate the intent of the mobile to switch, but instead merely indicates that a new base station is added to the candidate list, whereby Applicants submit that independent claim 11 and the associated dependent claims 12-20 are patentably distinct from Gilhousen for at least this reason.

In addition, amended independent claim 11 recites that the coded information comprises a signal containing formatted information forming a frame divided into substantially equal slots with at least one slot containing information identifying the particular target system equipment, at least another slot containing C/I information for the serving system equipment and further slots containing channel measurement adjustment information for the serving system equipment. This feature of amended claim 11 is neither taught nor suggested in Gilhousen, whereby claims 11-20 are

believed to be in condition for allowance and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested for this additional reason.

NEW CLAIMS 21-20

The new claims recite various details of the switch frame and the coded information thereof, wherein these details do not appear to be taught in Gilhousen or the previously cited reference (US 2001/0055969 to Bonta et al) and favorable consideration thereof is respectfully requested. In particular, new independent claim 21 recites that the mobile transmits a switch frame that includes both channel measurement adjustment information for the serving base station (serving system equipment), as well as coded information that identifies the target and indicates the intent of the mobile to switch, which features are neither taught nor suggested by Gilhousen. New claim 22 recites features shown in the embodiments of Applicants' Figs. 4 and 6 in specifying that a bit coded signal identifies the target system equipment. New dependent claim 23 further recites that the signal is coded using a null code to indicate the mobile's intent to switch (e.g., as in Applicants' Fig. 4), and claim 24 recites that the bit coded signal itself indicates the intent to switch (e.g., Applicants' Fig. 6). New dependent claim 25 is directed to embodiments exemplified in Applicants' Figs. 4 and 5 in which the switch frame includes a signal that is coded with a code that indicates the mobile's intent to switch. Dependent claim 26 further specifies that the code is a null code indicating both the intent to switch and the identity of the target (e.g., Applicants' Fig. 4) and new dependent claim 27 recites that the code is a cover code associate with the target (e.g., Applicants' Fig. 5).

New claims 28-30 further highlight the aspect of the mobile sending non-switch frames with the adjustment information, with the transmission of the switch-frame continuing provision of the adjustment information, and with the switch frame transmission timing being selected by the mobile, which features are neither taught nor suggested by Gilhousen. In this regard, the new independent claim 28 specifies that the mobile transmits non-switch frames carrying channel measurement adjustment information and also transmits a switch frame at a time selected by the mobile, with the switch frame including channel measurement adjustment information as well as the coded information that both the intent to switch and the identity of the target. The new claims 29 and 30 are generally similar to new claims 22 and 25, respectively, and recite that a bit coded signal identifies the target system equipment (e.g., Applicants' Figs. 4

and 6), and that the switch frame includes a signal that is coded with a code that indicates the mobile's intent to switch (e.g., Applicants' Figs. 4 and 5), respectively.

CONCLUSION

For at least the above reasons, the currently pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance and notice thereof is requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Should any fees be due as a result of the filing of this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the Deposit Account Number 06-0308, LUTZ200437.

Respectfully submitted,

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